

## Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

EUR-25 RSR-01 /123 W

----- 001793

R 071056 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1504

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PDEV, SF

SUBJECT: BUTHELEZI AND BOTHA CLASH AT CEREMONIAL OPENING  
OF KWAZULU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

REF: A. DURBAN A-44; B. DURBAN 0386, 9/13/72; C. DURBAN 0006, 1/14/72

SUMMARY: CEREMONIAL OPENING OF KWAZULU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
MAY 4 AT NONGOMA WAS SCENE OF MOST ACRIMONIOUS PUBLIC  
CONFRONTATION TO DATE BETWEEN BUTHELEZI AND M. C. BOTHA,  
MINISTER OF BANTU ADMIN. AND DEV. BUTHELEZI HEATEDLY  
REJECTED MOST RECENT SAG CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL FOR KWAZULU  
AND WARNED OF DANGERS TO SOUTH AFRICA IF NEEDS OF AMAZULU  
IGNORED. HE STRONGLY REJECTED ELEMENTS IN BOTHA'S ADDRESS  
AS MEDDLESOME AND SMACKING OF SAG INTERFERENCE IN KWAZULU  
POLITICS. MAY 4 SESSION WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN LARGELY  
CEREMONIAL BUT BUTHELEZI ATTACK REFLECTS STARK DIFFERENCES  
BETWEEN KWAZULU GOVT AND SAG RE HOMELAND'S FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

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1. AT OPENING FIRST ORDINARY SESSION KWAZULU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (KLA) MAY 4 CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR KWAZULU, WARNED THAT ZULUS WOULD NO LONGER "TOLERATE INTERFERENCE" IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE WAS REACTING TO INCLUSION IN OPENING REMARKS OF M. C. BOTHA, MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, STATEMENT THAT THOSE NOT SATISFIED WITH PRESENT KWAZULU CONSTITUTION SHOULD PRESS FOR CHANGE, WHICH WAS WIDELY INTERPRETED AS INVITATION TO GRANT GREATER POLITICAL POWERS TO KING GOODWILL ZWELITHINI.

2. FRICTION BETWEEN KING, WHO HAS NO CONSTITUTIONALLY BASED POLITICAL POWER, AND BUTHELEZI'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS EXISTED SINCE BEFORE GOODWILL'S INSTALLATION DEC. 1971. (REFTELS) BUTHELEZI INTERPRETED BOTHA'S REMARKS AS MEDDLESOME AND FURTHER IRRITANT IN CONTINUALLY VOLATILE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MONARCH AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. BREAKING INTO ENGLISH AND DEPARTING FROM PREPARED TEXT, BUTHELEZI AGGRESSIVELY ADVISED BOTHA THAT ZULUS "WERE QUITE SATISFIED WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION OF THE KING" AND "WOULD NEVER BROOK INTERFERENCE IN THEIR AFFAIRS, FROM WHATEVER SOURCE IT CAME". WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO BOTHA'S REMARKS, BUTHELEZI INSISTED MONARCHY WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY DESIGNED TO SERVE BOTH TRADITIONAL AND MODERN INTERESTS OF AMAZULU, AND NO ONE ELSE.

3. BUTHELEZI ALSO EXPRESSED HIS GOVT'S "CONTINUING STATE OF UNHAPPINESS" OVER SAG'S KWAZULU CONSOLIDATION PROPOSALS. HE ARGUED GULF BETWEEN PROMISE AND DEED IN POLICY OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT REMAINS "UNBRIDGABLE" AND NEEDS OF AMAZULU CAN CONTINUE TO BE IGNORED "ONLY AT THE PERIL OF THE WHOLE OF SOUTH AFRICA". HE HOPED CEREMONIAL TRANSFER OF POWER TO KLA MAY 3, INTER ALIA IN FORM OF NEW MACE FOR ASSEMBLY DONATED BY SOUTH AFRICAN SUGAR ASSOCIATION, WOULD REPRESENT "REAL SUBSTANCE OF POWER AND NOT THE MERE SHADOW OF IT". SUCH POWER IS OVERDUE, HE SAID, "ESPECIALLY AGAINST THE WIDER CANVAS OF REAL FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE WHICH MORE THAN 100 MILLION AFRICANS ENJOY IN THE REST OF AFRICA". LET US HOPE IT INAUGURATES "AN ERA OF REAL SELF-DETERMINATION, OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND OF HUMAN FREEDOM FOR THE KWAZULU NATION."

4. BOTHA REFUSED COMMENT TO PRESS ON BUTHELEZI'S ADDRESS BUT EVIDENTLY TOLD SABC REPS HE THOUGHT BUTHELEZI ABUSING HIS POSITION BY MAKING SUCH STATEMENTS AT FORMAL OPENING OF ASSEMBLY. BOTHA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAY RESPOND AT FUTURE DATE.

5. COMMENT: BUTHELEZI'S PREPARED SPEECH AND IMPROMPTU REMARKS ELICITED MURMERS OF APPROVAL FROM ZULU AUDIENCE BUT SPONTANEOUS APPLAUSE AT CLOSE WAS QUICKLY SILENCED BY ASSEMBLY'S CHAIRMAN. DISSOLUTION OF PRINCE GOODWILL'S ROYAL COUNCIL MAY 3 JUST PRIOR

TO KLA SESSION SEEN AS VICTORY FOR PRO- BUTHELEZI FORCES BUT  
ALLEGED SAG BACKING OF YOUTHFUL KING WILL CONTINUE IMPORTANT  
ISSUE IN STABILITY KWAZULU GOVT. ALTHOUGH SOME ENCOURAGED BY  
OSTENTATIOUS DISPLAY OF RESPECT AND CORDIALITY BY BUTHELEZI  
TO KING DURING OPENING CEREMONIES, ISSUE OF MONARCH 'S POLITICAL  
POWER LIKELY TO REMAIN; ESPECIALLY AS ANY PRO- MONARCH VOICE SEEN  
AS TOOL OF SAG ATTEMPT DIVIDE ZULU LOYALTIES. BUTHELEZI- BOTHA  
CONFRONTATION IS MOST ACRIMONIOUS IN PUBLIC TO DATE AND UNDERLINES  
SHARP RIFT BETWEEN BUTHELEZI AND SAG VISIONS OF KWAZULU FUTURE.  
HOLMES

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